MR. A. KUMARA PILLAI (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): (*a*) to (*d*). A statement* containing the information is laid on the table.

MR. N. K. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara*): In the list supplied showing those who have been promoted to the First Grade, I find the name of one Mr. P. K. Velayudhan who does not appear to have held any office under Government when he was appointed as First Grade Inspector. May I know whether it is a fact?

MR. A. KUMARA PILLAI (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): No; he was holding an appointment in the office of the Agent to the Governor-General, Trivandrum.

MR. N. K. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara*): May I know whether he was drafted to the Excise Department directly from the office of the Agent to the Governor-General?

MR. A. KUMARA PILLAI (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): Yes.

MR. N. K KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara*): May I know what pay he was drawing in the office of the Agent to the Governor-General before he was appointed in the Excise Department?

MR. A. KUMARA PILLAI (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): Rs. 50.

MR. N.K. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara*): May I know whether there are not Second Grade Inspectors in the Excise Department itself who were drawing higher pay than this gentleman at the time of the appointment?

MR. A. KUMARA PILLAI (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): That is likely.

MR N. K. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara*): May I know what consideration Government had in appointing this gentleman over the heads of men who were drawing the maximum in the Second Grade, *viz.*, Rs. 90?

MR. A. KUMARA PILLAI (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): He was appointed as a special case.

MR. N. K. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara*): May I know whether the reasons for making such an appointment could be disclosed or whether they are confidential?

MR. A. KUMARA PILLAI (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): They are confidential.

Promotions in the Excise Department.

214 MR. N. K. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) when the Excise Test was first instituted;

(*b*) the number of officers from the cadres of Inspectors, Petty Officers and Clerks in the Excise Department who were given promotion on account of their success in this test during the years 1104, 1105 and 1106; and

(*c*) whether it is a fact that, in giving promotions, due regard was and is not being paid to success in this test?

Vide appendix II—page 527.

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MR. A. KUMARA PILLAI (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): (*a*) The Excise Test Examination was first instituted in January 1927.

(*b*) A statement showing the number of officers in the various grades who had passed the Excise Test and who were given promotion is given below :—

Class of Officers.	*No. promoted.*
1104	
Petty Officers	4
Clerks	4
1105	
Inspector	1
Petty Officers	5
Clerks	5
1106	
Inspector	1
Petty Officers	2
Clerks	11

(*c*) In giving promotions due regard was and is being paid to success in this test.

MR. N. K. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara*): In regard to part (*b*), may I know whether it is not a fact that when these appointments were made it *chanced* that these officers happened to have passed the examination and not that they were promoted *because* they had passed the Test?

MR. A. KUMARA PILLAI (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): They were promoted *because* they had passed the examination. Had it not been for their passing the examination, they would *not* have been promoted. The passing of the examination is one of the qualifications of promotion.

MR. N. K. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara*): I know that. My question is whether these officers were promoted simply on account of their having passed the examination.

MR. A. KUMARA PILLAI (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): Also on account of their seniority in service.

MR. N. K. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkarā*): May I know whether there is any instance of promotion being given in the department, on the only ground of the officers having passed this Test without regard to seniority?

MR. A. KUMARA PILLAI (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): That information is not now available.

Opening a dispensary at Ottasekharamangalam.

215. MR. N. K. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara*): Will the Government be pleased to state

(*a*) whether the people of Ottasekharamangalam have requested the Inspecting Medical Officer or the Administrative Board, Medical Services, for opening a dispensary or at least for the time being a bi-weekly dispensary at Ottasekharamangalam; and

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